

McDaniel  
Serial no. 09/939,067  
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In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A method performed by an interruption handler to at least start a dialog with an operating system for handling an interruption comprising:  
storing, by the interruption handler, a recommendation for the operating system to handle ~~handling~~ an interruption and information regarding the interruption in a storage accessible by the operating system, the interruption handler separate from the operating system;  
calling, by the interruption handler, the operating system at a predetermined interruption handling point of the operating system for the operating system to handle the interruption; and,  
determining, by the interruption handler, whether the operating system handled the interruption according to the recommendation.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein storing the recommendation for handling the interruption and the information regarding the interruption in the storage accessible by the operating system comprises storing the recommendation and the information in ~~at least one~~ of an error log and/or a register accessible by the operating system.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether the operating system handled the interruption according to the recommendation comprises examining a storage to determine whether the operating system changed contents thereof by storing status information in the storage.
4. (original) The method of claim 1, further initially comprising receiving the interruption.
5. (original) The method of claim 4, further comprising after receiving the interruption from the hardware, formulating the recommendation for handling the interruption.

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6. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
performing final cleanup for handling the interruption; and,  
returning hardware control to the operating system.
7. (currently amended) A system comprising:  
a storage;  
a processor generating an interruption;  
an interruption handler receiving the interruption, and storing a recommendation for  
handling the interruption and information regarding the interruption in the storage; and,  
an operating system having a predetermined interruption handling point called by the  
interruption handler for the operating system to handle the interruption, the interruption handler  
subsequently examining the storage to determine whether the operating system handled the  
interruption according to the recommendation, the interruption handler separate from the  
operating system.
8. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the storage comprises an error log having a first  
and subsequent entries, the interruption handler storing the recommendation for handling the  
interruption in the first entry, and at least part of the information regarding the interruption in the  
subsequent entries.
9. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the storage comprises a register in which the  
interruption handler stores part of the information regarding the interruption, and which the  
interruption handler examines for status information stored therein by the operating system to  
determine whether the operating system handled the interruption according to the  
recommendation.

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10. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the interruption generated by the processor comprises an interruption selected from the group of interruptions essentially consisting of: an abort, an interrupt, a fault, and a trap.

11. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the interruption generated by the processor comprises a machine check abort.

12. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the interruption handler is part of a system abstraction layer of the system.

13. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the operating system is aware of and is designed to leverage the recommendation for handling the interruption and the information regarding the interruption stored by the interruption handler in the storage, such that the operating system and the interruption handler achieve a dialog as to handling the interruption.

14. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the operating system is unaware of and is not designed to leverage the recommendation for handling the interruption and the information regarding the interruption stored by the interruption handler in the storage, such that the operating system and the interruption handler are able to function, but without achieving a dialog as to handling the interruption.

15. (currently amended) An article comprising:  
a computer-readable medium; and,  
means in the medium for storing a recommendation for operating system handling a processor interruption and information regarding the interruption in a storage, for calling an

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operating system at a predetermined interruption handling point for the operating system to handle the interruption, and for examining the storage to determine whether the operating system handled the interruption according to the recommendation, the means separate from the operating system.

16. (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the means in the medium examines the storage for status information stored therein by the operating system to determine whether the operating system handled the interruption according to the recommendation.

17. (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the means in the medium is further for formulating the recommendation for handling the interruption.

18. (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the interruption is selected from the group of interruptions essentially consisting of: an abort, an interrupt, a fault, and a trap.

19. (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the medium is a recordable data storage medium.

20. (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the medium is a modulated carrier signal.